Steps for welfare of senior citizens

113. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people who are more than 60 years of age or are senior citizens, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government for the welfare of the senior citizens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) State-wise details of number of people who are more than 60 years of age or are senior citizens are given at Statement enclosed (*See* below).

(b) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing the following several schemes (i) Integrated Programme for Older Persons and (ii) Construction of Old Age Homes. Under these schemes, the Ministry provides Grant-in-aid/financial assistance to Non-Governmental Organisations for (i) establishment and maintenance of Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres, Mobile Medicare Units, Non-Institutional Service Centres and (ii) construction of Old Age Homes and Multi service centres.

Additionally, 10 Kg. of foodgrains is distributed to each destitute elderly every month under "Annapurna Scheme" of the Ministry of Rural Development, separate queue system for the elderly is operational in hospitals, elder citizens are given priority in telephone connection and grievance redressal by the Department of Telecommunications, concession in fare is provided by the Railways and Civil Aviation Ministries, tax concessions are provided by the Ministry of Finance, specific insurance schemes have been designed by Life Insurance Corporation, New India Assurance etc. Some public sector banks also allow higher interest on deposit by the elderly.

Under the National Old Age Pension Scheme, States/UTs are distributing old age pension to Senior Citizens with no regular income.

Statement

Number of persons who are more than 60 years of age State/UT wise. (as per 1991 Census)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of persons
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4,510,929
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	37,500
3.	Assam	1,194,460
4.	Bihar	5,408,629
5.	Goa	82,507
6.	Gujarat	2,637,803
7.	Haryana	1,267,741
8.	Himachal Pradesh	420,003
9.	Karnataka	3,142,708
10.	Kerala	2,567,365
11.	Madhya Pradesh	4,389,202
12.	Maharashtra	5,510,128
13.	Manipur	111,105
14.	Meghalaya	78,742
15.	Mizoram	33,186
16.	Nagaland	63,777
17.	Orissa	2,280,956
18.	Punjab	1,590,059
19.	Rajasthan	2,767,870
20.	Sikkim	18,508
21.	Tamil Nadu	4,161,819
22.	Tripura	193,295
23.	Uttar Pradesh	9,546,943
24.	West Bengal	4,115,573
25.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	9,546
26.	Chandigarh	28,351

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of persons
27.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	5,940
28.	Daman and Diu	6,327
29.	Delhi	439,520
30.	Lakshadweep	2,639
31.	Pondicherry	58,440
	INDIA	**58,681,640**

Welfare schemes for socially weaker sections in Rajasthan

114. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of welfare schemes and programmes formulated by Government for upliftment of SCs, STs, OBCs, Adivasis, other minorities and other weaker sections in Rajasthan during the last five years;

(b) the details of funds allocated and the amount of funds spent for implementation of these schemes during this period; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment implements different welfare schemes for SCs, OBCs, minorities and other weaker sections and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs is concerned with the welfare schemes for Scheduled Tribes. These schemes are implemented throughout the country and not for a particular State alone. Also, no allocation is made State wise under these schemes. Amount of assistance released under different welfare schemes in the State of Rajasthan in the last five years is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below). Funds are released under these schemes depending upon the demands of various States and the Budget availability. Also, funds are released only after utilization certificates are received from State Governments and Voluntary Organizations in respect of releases made earlier for which these are due.